



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

YK

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/423,275	01/27/2000	FRANK PUTTKAMMER	990348	6553

7590 07/30/2002

LAW OFFICES OF KARL HORMANN
86 SPARKS STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MA 021382216

EXAMINER

PUNNOOSE, ROY M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2877	

DATE MAILED: 07/30/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/423,275	PUTTKAMMER, FRANK
	Examiner Roy M. Punnoose	Art Unit 2877

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 April 2002.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 14-21 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 14-21 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. As requested by the applicant in the amendment letter received on April 18, 2002, claims 1-13 have been cancelled and new claims 14-21 have been entered.
2. A substitute specification excluding the claims is required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.125(a) to correct all deficiencies cited in the previous office action (paper #7).

A substitute specification filed under 37 CFR 1.125(a) must only contain subject matter from the original specification and any previously entered amendment under 37 CFR 1.121. If the substitute specification contains additional subject matter not of record, the substitute specification must be filed under 37 CFR 1.125(b) and must be accompanied by: 1) a statement that the substitute specification contains no new matter; and 2) a marked-up copy showing the amendments to be made via the substitute specification relative to the specification at the time the substitute specification is filed.

Specification

3. The disclosure of patent application DE 197 18 916.4 in the *abstract* is inappropriate. Correction is required.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 14 recites the limitation "security strip" in line 13 (third line from the top of page 2 of the amendment letter). There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Were the intended words "security thread" as disclosed on line 3 of claim 14? Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 14 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection set forth in this Office action.

6. Claim 14 is allowable because the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a method of testing a document for at least one of the properties thereof, the document being provided with an electrically conductive security material, an optically variable device and with a metallic security thread comprising the steps of deriving a first signal representative of the conductivity of a conductive element, deriving a second signal by comparing an optical signal with a reference signal, the first and second signals establishing a main code as a function of their mathematical relationship, and using the main code and a third signal derived from an authenticity test of the metallic security thread to derive a fourth signal, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

7. Claims 15-21 are allowable because their limitations are dependent on the limitations of independent claim 14.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Examiner Roy M. Punnoose** whose telephone number is 703-306-9145. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

Art Unit: 2877

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the applicant can reach his ***Supervisory Patent Examiner, Frank G. Font, at (703) 308-4881.***

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a **general nature** or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is **(703) 305-0530.**

Roy M. Punnoose
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2877
July 27, 2002



Mr. Frank G. Font
Supervisory Patent Examiner

